& Cosmetics Act, 1940, before these are implemented.

Effect of Urine Therapy on Aids

6391. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Times of India dated the 7th March, 1995 under the Caption "Water of life" may cure AIDS;

(b) whether uropathy known as urine therapy can cure a host of diseases including the most dreaded disease of the century AIDS according to a book "Wonders of Urotherapy" by Dr. G.K. Thakkar, Director of the Water Life Foundation; and

(c) whether Government have gone through the book; if so, the reaction of Govenment thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WEFLARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a): Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In the absence of any research data the efficacy of Urotherapy/ Urinetherapy for different ailments has not been verified.

Development of a Vaccine Against AIDS by Cuba

6392. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Cuba has successfully developed a vaccine against AIDS; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b): No published Scientific report about Cuba having developed a Vaccine against AIDS is available with the Government.

Resignation of faculty Members from AIIMS

6393. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the faculty members of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences who have resigned/taken premature retirement during the administrative tenure of the present Director of the Institute;

(b) whether it is a fact that the number of faculty members who have left AIIMS during the tanure of its present Director is the highest as compared to similar cases during the tenure of the previous Directors of the Institute; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take so that the talanted faculty members of the Institute are not forced to leave, it due to administrative mismanagement of the Director?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) Thirty seven faculty members of AIIMS resigned/took voluntary retirement during the administrative tenure of the present Director of the Institute.

(b) and (c): The number is more as the strength of the faculty members has been increasing. The faculty members resign/ take voluntery retirement on account of "personal grounds" as stated by them.

Functioning of the AIIMS

6394. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that former Union Health Minister continues to be the president of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences;

(b) whether it is also a fact that only the President has the authority to call a meeting of the Institute;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Director of the AIIMS had issued four memos for the meeting of the Institute of his own without taking the consent of the President; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take against the Director of AIIMS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d): This happened because a view was earlier taken that the then Minister had ceased to hold the office of the President of the Institute after demission of the office of the Minister of Health and Family Welfare. However, the matter was re-examined later and it was decided that he continued to be the President of the Institute.

Irregularities in supply of Medicines under NMEP

6395. DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI V.N. GADGIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that supply of medicines under the National Malaria Eradicaiton Programme has been highly irregular to several States since 1st April, 1993 and if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government had received any proposal from the Government of Maharashtra to the effect that the State Government be permitted to make all the purchases of medicine and that Government of India should bear 50% of the expenses for medicines and pesticides and if so, the details thereof and the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) During 1993, the Govt. of Maharashtra requested for reimbursement of cost of 225.29 lakh Chloroquine tablets. However, as the Central assistance under National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP) since 1993-94 is in the form of materials only, the expenditure incurred by the State Govt. was to be adjusted in 50% Share of the State.

Setting up of branch of NICD in Bombay

6396. DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI V.N. GADGIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is no branch of National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD), Delhi in the State of Maharashtra and as a result thereof the blood samples of patients suspected to be suffering from communicable diseases are sent to Bangalore for test which involves a lot of delay; and

(b) whether government propose to set up a branch of this Institute in Bombay and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) Blood samples from Maharashtra were sent to the Bangalore Branch of National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD). However, non-availability of adequate quantity of diagnostic reagents and large number of samples required to be examined within a short period of time, contributed to some delay in testing of samples.

(b) There is no such proposal. However, financial assistance has been provided to some medical colleges/ hospitals in the State for upgradation of laboratory facilities.